

The Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism offered the following substitute to SR 882:

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Department of Community Affairs to refrain from adopting the 2024 International
2 Energy Conservation Code in order to protect housing affordability and maintain the current
3 energy code framework of this state; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, access to safe, decent, and affordable housing is essential to economic stability
5 and the quality of life of the citizens of this state; and

6 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is currently experiencing significant housing affordability
7 challenges, with rising construction costs contributing to increased home prices and reduced
8 home ownership opportunities; and

9 WHEREAS, the Department of Community Affairs is considering adoption of the 2024
10 International Energy Conservation Code, which would impose new regulations affecting
11 residential construction across the state; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia's current energy code, the 2015 International Energy Conservation
13 Code with Georgia amendments, reflects a balance between energy efficiency and
14 affordability appropriate for Georgia's climate; and

15 WHEREAS, cost modeling for Georgia indicates that adoption of the 2024 International
16 Energy Conservation Code would increase construction costs by thousands of dollars per
17 home; and

18 WHEREAS, for every \$1,000 increase in the price of a home more than 5,000 citizens of this
19 state are priced out of the housing market, leading to compounded concerns about housing
20 affordability; and

21 WHEREAS, Georgia's existing energy code aligns with or exceeds many neighboring states
22 and allows for energy-conscious construction without imposing excessive costs; and

23 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens of this state to avoid unnecessary
24 regulations that increase housing costs during a time of significant affordability challenges.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
26 urge the Department of Community Affairs to refrain from adopting the 2024 International
27 Energy Conservation Code for residential construction and continue to use the 2015
28 International Energy Conservation Code.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
30 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the commissioner
31 of community affairs and to the chairpersons of the State Codes Advisory Committee.